



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **V CORPS UNIT PUTS IN A MILLION SAFE MILES ON IRAQ ROADS SUPPORTING 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION**

**1st Infantry Division release**

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq** — When a combat logistics patrol from the 701st Main Support Battalion of V Corps' 1st Infantry Division returned here recently, its arrival marked a significant event. With that return, the 701st surpassed one million miles driven in Iraq without a combat loss.

The patrol, led by 1st Lt. Tomas Campbell of the battalion's Bravo Company, was greeted by a formation of 701st troops and leaders and a ceremony attended by Brig. Gen. Stephen Mundt, the 1st Infantry's assistant division commander for support, and Col. Paul Wentz, commander of the division's Support Command.

Since March 2004, the battalion has had Soldiers and trucks on the roads here nearly every day supporting the division's combat operations. Battalion troops have conducted more than 650 combat logistics patrols across the theater, from Kuwait to Kirkuk and from Jordan to the Iranian border.

Those patrols have delivered mission-critical supplies and equipment to every forward operating base in the division's area of operations, including more than

70,000 tons of supplies, more than five million gallons of fuel, more than 1,000 pieces of equipment, and more than 1,500 Soldiers.

On any given day the battalion had an average of 54 vehicles and 116 Soldiers on the road. Bravo Company, the division's only truck company, provided the workhorse fleet for the unit's patrols, but the million-mile mark was reached by the combined efforts of every company in the battalion.

"We're proud that we have achieved this milestone without giving the enemy a victory, but you are only as good as your last mission," stated Lt. Col. Drexel K. Ross, the 701st's commander.

"We could not have done it without the young sergeants who, day in and out, enforce standards and do the hard work of leading our troops. The other heroes of our (combat logistics patrols) are the dedicated drivers who log phenomenal numbers of miles each week moving supplies, equipment and fuel. Every one of our Soldiers on the road knows they have to complete their mission in order for the division to complete its mission."

